A Topological Classification of Time Reversal Symmetric Frustrated Systems and Metamaterials

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Goal and results

	Dimension d						
$ \nu $	1	2	3	4		Ę	5
			$m \ge 2$	m = 2	$m \ge 3$	m = 2	$m \ge 3$
0	\mathbb{Z}	0	Z	\mathbb{Z}_2	0	\mathbb{Z}_2	\mathbb{Z}
1	0	0	\mathbb{Z}	\mathbb{Z}_2	0	\mathbb{Z}_2	\mathbb{Z}
2	0	0	0		0		\mathbb{Z}
\geq 3	0	0	0		0		0



			d		
$ \nu $	1	2	3		
			m = 1	$m \ge 2$	
0	\mathbb{Z}	\mathbb{Z}	Z	*	
1	0	0		*	
≥ 2	0	0		0	

	d			
	1	2	3	
0	\mathbb{Z}	\mathbb{Z}	*	
2 2	0	0	0	

AIII/CII

AIII/BDI

Introduction

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- **Motivation**
 - ``Frustration'' describes the situation where spins in a spin model cannot find an orientation to minimise the interaction energies with their neighbouring spins simultaneously¹



Figure: Antialignment of each spin in Heisenberg antiferromagnet (HAF) with nn interactions on a triangular lattice (a) is impossible. A cluster of three spins (b) forms a unique structure.

¹H.T. Diep. Frustrated Spin Systems. World Scientific, 2004, p. 2. < => = <> << > A Topological Classification of Time Reversal Symmetric Frustrated Systems and Metamaterials A Topological Classification of Time Reversal Symmetric Frustrated Systems and Metamaterials

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Motivation

- Ground states (GSs) of HAFs are determined by satisfying certain constraints in each cluster, e.g. zero total spin²
- Example Hamiltonian (J > 0)

$$H = J \sum_{\langle I, j \rangle} \mathbf{S}_{i} \cdot \mathbf{S}_{j} = rac{J}{2} \sum_{lpha} |\mathbf{L}_{lpha}|^{2} + c$$

with

$$\mathbf{L}_{\alpha} \coloneqq \sum_{i \in \alpha} \mathbf{S}_i$$

 ²Roderich Moessner and Arthur Ramirez. "Geometrical Frustration". In:

 Physics Today 59 (Feb. 2006).

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Maxwell counting argument

- The hallmark of frustration is a large **accidental** GS degeneracy
- Estimate³ $\nu := \#$ GS DOFs per unit cell = N M with
 - N := #Total spin DOFs per unit cell and
 - M := #Linearly independent GS constraints per unit cell



(a)

Figure: GSs of the pyrochlore (a) HAF are characterised by a vanishing total spin (b) in each tetrahedron and parameterised by $\nu = 2$ DOFs θ and ϕ .

³R. Moessner and J. T. Chalker. "Properties of a Classical Spin Liquid: The Heisenberg Pyrochlore Antiferromagnet". In: *Phys: Rev. Lett.* 80 (13 Mar. 1998). " A Topological Classification of Time Reversal Symmetric Frustrated Systems and Metamaterials A Topological Classification of Time Reversal Symmetric Frustrated Systems and Metamaterials

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Linearised degrees of freedom and constraints



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- Néel ordered state is one of many GSs of the $J_1 J_2$ HAF on a square lattice⁴
- Expand around chosen GS → linearised DOFs come from plane (purple) perpendicular to fixed spin axis (black dot), i.e. tangent space to sphere (grey) S²

⁴Krishanu Roychowdhury and Michael J. Lawler. ``Classification of magnetic frustration and metamaterials from topology''. In: *Phys. Rev.* 898 (9 Sept. 2018). A Topological Classification of Time Reversal Symmetric Frustrated Systems and Metamaterials

Classification outline

- Classify topology of zero modes in frustrated systems as function of GS degeneracy homotopically⁵
- Origin of frustration: accidental degeneracy of zero modes → topological invariants
- Methods similar to derivation of Bott-Kitaev table
- E.g. flattening of singular values instead of spectral flattening of Hamiltonians

⁵Roychowdhury and Lawler, ``Classification of magnetic frustration and metamaterials from topology''.

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The spaces of linearised DOFs and constraints

- Z^d = Underlying lattice, and associate to each lattice position a C^N = Unit cell of linearised DOFs of a spin wave in a frustrated system
- Linearised degrees of freedom live in

$$egin{aligned} \mathcal{H}^{\mathsf{N}}_{d} &\coloneqq \ell^{2}\left(\mathbb{Z}^{d},\mathbb{C}^{\mathsf{N}}
ight) \ &= \left\{arphi \colon \mathbb{Z}^{d} o \mathbb{C}^{\mathsf{N}} \; \middle| \; \sum_{i=1}^{\mathsf{N}} \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{Z}^{d}} |arphi_{i}(\mathbf{x})|^{2} < \infty
ight\} \end{aligned}$$

- Models large GS degeneracy
- The GS constraints live in \mathcal{H}^M_d

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Rigidity matrices

Rigidity operator

 $R: \mathcal{D}(R) \subseteq \mathcal{H}_d^N \to \mathcal{H}_d^M$ Linearised DOFs \to Constraints,

- Corresponding linearised Hamiltonian $H = R^{\dagger}R$ governing spin waves dynamics
- ker $H = \ker R$ contains the zero modes
- Topological classification of translation invariant rigidity operators → explore new varieties of frustration in which zero modes are demanded from topology⁶
- Classify the topology of zero modes in frustrated systems

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Rigidity matrices

- Fourier transform $F: \mathcal{H}_d^N \to \mathcal{K}_d^N := L^2(T^d, \mathbb{C}^N)$ turns R into multiplication operator FRF^{\dagger}
- Multiplication by the continuous based **rigidity matrix map** $r: T^d \to \mathbb{C}^{M \times N}$ on the Brillouin zone $T^d = \mathbb{R}^d / 2\pi \mathbb{Z}^d$
- rank $r \equiv \min(N, M)$ implements the linear independence assumption of GS constraints
- Gap condition: number of nonzero singular values is rank of the matrix and the only way a zero mode can be introduced and a gap closed is to reduce this rank
- Maxwell counting indices in terms of rigidity matrices, $\nu = \text{nullity } r - \text{nullity } r^{T}$ (rank-nullity theorem)

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Imposing time reversal symmetry (TRS)

- For time reversal symmetric frustrated systems we have $RT_1 = T_2R$ with $T_i^2 = \pm Id$ (both real or quaternionic structures)
- Its rigidity matrix map becomes \mathbb{Z}_2 -equivariant, i.e.

Label	TRS	\mathbb{Z}_2 -equivariance condition on r
Alll	no	trivial \mathbb{Z}_2 -equivariance
AIII/BDI	yes, $T_i^2 = + \mathrm{Id}$	$r\left(-\mathbf{k} ight)=\overline{r(\mathbf{k})}$
AllI/ClI	yes, $T_i^2 = -\mathrm{Id}$	$r(-\mathbf{k}) = (I_{M/2} \otimes \sigma_2) \overline{r(\mathbf{k})} (I_{N/2} \otimes \sigma_2)$

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Example: Triangular lattice HAF

- Triangular lattice $\Lambda := \mathbf{a}_1 \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbf{a}_2 \mathbb{Z}$ with $\mathbf{a}_1 = (1,0)$, $\mathbf{a}_2 = (1/2, \sqrt{3}/2)$
- The Hamiltonian (J > 0)

$$\begin{split} H &= J \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \Lambda} \left(S_{\mathbf{x}} S_{\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{a}_1} + S_{\mathbf{x}} S_{\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{a}_2} + S_{\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{a}_1} S_{\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{a}_2} \right) \\ &= \frac{J}{2} \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \Lambda} \left(S_{\mathbf{x}} + S_{\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{a}_1} + S_{\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{a}_2} \right)^2 + \text{const.} \end{split}$$

• GSs are defined by $L_{\mathbf{x}} = S_{\mathbf{x}} + S_{\mathbf{x}+\mathbf{a}_1} + S_{\mathbf{x}+\mathbf{a}_2} = 0$ for all $\mathbf{x} \in \Lambda$

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Example: Triangular lattice HAF

- Linearize the spins around spin axis in ground state with $(q, p) \mapsto (\cos(q)\sqrt{1-p^2}, \sin(q)\sqrt{1-p^2}, p)$
- Rigidity matrix in position space is defined by $L_{\mathbf{x}} = R \begin{pmatrix} q \\ p \end{pmatrix}$
- Momentum space representation is \mathbb{Z}_2 -equivariant

$$r(\mathbf{k}) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} (e^{ik_y} - e^{ik_x}) & 0\\ 1 - \frac{1}{2} (e^{ik_x} + e^{ik_y}) & 0\\ 0 & 1 + e^{ik_x} + e^{ik_y} \end{pmatrix}$$

Symmetry class AIII/BDI and $\nu = -1$

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Example: Pyrochlore HAF



• Similar analysis leads to

$$r(\mathbf{k}) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & -e^{ik_x} & e^{ik_y} & -e^{ik_z} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & e^{ik_x} & e^{ik_y} & e^{ik_z} \end{pmatrix}$$

• Symmetry class AIII/BDI and described by two individual $\nu=2$ systems

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The mapping space of rigidity matrices

- Define action of $\mathbb{Z}_2 = \{l, g\}$ on mapping space $C\left(T^d, [\mathbf{0}]; \mathbb{C}^{M \times N}, r_0\right)$ by conjugation $(g, r) \mapsto \left(\mathbf{k} \mapsto gr\left(g^{-1}\mathbf{k}\right)\right)$
- Z₂-fixed points C (T^d, [0]; C^{M×N}, r₀)^{Z₂} are Z₂-equivariant maps
- Subspace R^N_{dM} in which the singular value flattened maps are Z₂-equivariant and based too is the mapping space of rigidity matrices
- Based map condition

$$r(\mathbf{0}) = r_0 := \begin{cases} \begin{pmatrix} I_M & 0 \end{pmatrix} & \text{for } M \le N, \\ \begin{pmatrix} I_N \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} & \text{for } M \ge N, \end{cases}$$

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Spectral flattening technique and classifying spaces

- Classification by the topological invariants R^N_{dM}/\sim (modulo \mathbb{Z}_2 -homotopy) classifying the topology of zero modes in frustrated systems
- There is a strong deformation retract (homotopy equivalence)

 $ilde{\mathsf{R}}^{\mathsf{N}}_{\mathsf{dM}}\cong C(T^{\mathsf{d}},[\mathbf{0}];\mathsf{V}_{\mathsf{n}}(\mathbb{C}^m),\mathsf{E})^{\mathbb{Z}_2}$

by linearly interpolating from the matrix of singular values to r_0 , with $m := \max(M, N)$, $n := \min(M, N)$ and $E := (e_1 \cdots e_n)$

• Classifying spaces are therefore Stiefel manifolds (homogeneous spaces)

$$V_{n}\left(\mathbb{F}^{m}
ight)\coloneqq\left\{\Lambda\in\mathbb{F}^{m imes n}\mid\Lambda^{\dagger}\Lambda=I_{n}
ight\}$$

for all $\mathbb{F} \in \{\mathbb{R},\mathbb{C},\mathbb{H}\}$

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Topological invariants

 Strong (in the presence of disorder breaking translational symmetry) and weak topological invariants are contained in

 $\left[\left(T^{d},\left[\mathbf{0}\right]\right),\left(V_{n}\left(\mathbb{C}^{m}\right),E\right)\right]_{\mathbb{Z}_{2}}$

• Replacement of T^d by *d*-sphere $S^d \simeq I^d / \partial I^d$, with $I := [-\pi, \pi]$, gives the strong invariants⁷

$$\left[\left(I^{d},\partial I^{d}\right),\left(V_{n}\left(\mathbb{C}^{m}\right),E\right)\right]_{\mathbb{Z}_{2}}\cong\pi_{0}\left(\left(\Omega^{d}V_{n}\left(\mathbb{C}^{m}\right)\right)^{\mathbb{Z}_{2}}\right)$$

• *d*-fold iterated loop space of a based space (X, x₀) is

$$\Omega^{d}X := \left\{ f \colon I^{d} \to X \mid f\left(\partial I^{d}\right) = \left\{ x_{0} \right\} \right\}$$

In the absence of TRS we obtain as topological invariants

$$\left[\left(I^{d},\partial I^{d}\right),\left(V_{n}(\mathbb{C}^{m}),E\right)\right]=\pi_{d}\left(V_{n}(\mathbb{C}^{m})\right)$$

⁷Krishanu Roychowdhury et al. ``Supersymmetry on the lattice: Geometry, Topology, and Spin Liquids''. In: 2022. A Topological Classification of Time Reversal Symmetric Frustrated Systems and Metamaterials A Topological Classification of Time Reversal Symmetric Frustrated Systems and Metamaterials

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Comparing topological invariants

The time reversal related symmetries of Roychowdhury and Lawler (2018)⁸ lead to the topological invariants

$$\left[\left(I^{d}, \partial I^{d} \right), \left(V_{n}(\mathbb{C}^{m})^{\mathbb{Z}_{2}}, E \right) \right] \cong \pi_{d} \left(V_{n}(\mathbb{C}^{m})^{\mathbb{Z}_{2}} \right),$$

i.e. the higher homotopy groups of

$$V_{n}(\mathbb{C}^{m})^{\mathbb{Z}_{2}} \cong \begin{cases} V_{n}(\mathbb{C}^{m}) & \text{no symmetries,} \\ V_{n}(\mathbb{R}^{m}) & \text{for } I_{i}^{2} = +\mathrm{Id}, \\ V_{n/2}(\mathbb{H}^{m/2}) & \text{for } I_{i}^{2} = -\mathrm{Id}. \end{cases}$$

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Reformulation with relative homotopy (groups)

In the presence of TRS we are inspired by R. Kennedy and M.R. Zirnbauer (2015, Lemma 5.13) and find

Lemma 1

For any \mathbb{Z}_2 -space X (D, d \geq 0),

$$\pi_{D}\left(\left(\Omega^{d+1}X\right)^{\mathbb{Z}_{2}}\right)\cong\pi_{D+1}\left(\Omega^{d}X,\left(\Omega^{d}X\right)^{\mathbb{Z}_{2}}\right).$$

Ingredient: reinterpret relative homotopy groups by $T \cong I^{D+1}$



• Our applications of Lemma 1 are for D = 0, $X = V_n(\mathbb{C}^m)$ and base point $E = (e_1 \cdots e_n)$

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The homotopy sequence of a pair

For a based pair of spaces (X, A, x_0) the **boundary operator** $\partial : \pi_d(X, A) \rightarrow \pi_{d-1}(A)$ is defined by $\partial[f] := \left[f|_{I^{d-1} \times \{-\pi\}} \right]$ (a homomorphism for $d \ge 2$)



Restriction from l^3 onto $l^2 \times \{-\pi\} \cong l^2$

Theorem 2 (Dieck: Algebraic Topology, p. 123)

The following sequence is exact (d \geq 1).

Here, i_* and j_* are the induced canonical inclusions.

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An Algorithm ($X = V_n(\mathbb{C}^m), \Omega^d_{(\mathbb{Z}_2)} \equiv (\Omega^d X)^{(\mathbb{Z}_2)}$) $[(I^d, \partial I^d), (X, E)]_{\mathbb{Z}_2}$

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An Algorithm ($X = V_n(\mathbb{C}^m), \Omega^d_{(\mathbb{Z}_2)} \equiv (\Omega^d X)^{(\mathbb{Z}_2)}$) $[(I^d, \partial I^d), (X, x_0)]_{\mathbb{Z}_2}$ $\downarrow^{\mathbb{R}^2}_{\pi_1(\Omega^{d-1}, \Omega^{d-1}_{\mathbb{Z}_2})}$

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In the absence of TRS ($|\nu| = m - n$) AIII

Displayed are $\pi_d \left(V_{m-|\nu|} \left(\mathbb{C}^m \right) \right)^{9}$

	Dimension d						
$ \nu $	1	2	3	4		ŧ	5
			$m \ge 2$	$m=2$ $m\geq 3$		m = 2	$m \ge 3$
0	\mathbb{Z}	0	Z	\mathbb{Z}_2	0	\mathbb{Z}_2	Z
1	0	0	\mathbb{Z}	\mathbb{Z}_2	0	\mathbb{Z}_2	\mathbb{Z}
2	0	0	0		0		\mathbb{Z}
\geq 3	0	0	0		0		0

• The case $\pi_d(U(1)) = \pi_d(S^1) = 0$ for all $d \ge 2$ is not explicitly contained in this table from $d \ge 3$

⁹Maurice E. Gilmore. "Complex Stiefel Manifolds, some homotopy groups and vector fields". In: Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society 73.5 (1967); Mamoru Mimura and Hiroshi Toda. "Homotopy groups of symplectic groups". In: Journal of Mathematics of Kyoto University 3.2 (1963); A. Hatcher. Algebraic Topology. Algebraic Topology. Cambridge University Press, 2002, p. 339.

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In the presence of TRS

Displayed are $\left[\left(I^{d}, \partial I^{d} \right), \left(V_{m-|\nu|}(\mathbb{C}^{m}), E \right) \right]_{\mathbb{Z}_{2}}$

	d					
$ \nu $	1	2	3			
			m = 1	$m \ge 2$		
0	\mathbb{Z}	\mathbb{Z}	\mathbb{Z}	*		
1	0	0		*		
≥ 2	0	0		0		

AIII/BDI



AIII/CII

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- * = yet to be evaluated strong topological invariants which indicate emergence of unstable regime
- There is trivial regime $[(I^d, \partial I^d), (V_{m-|\nu|}(\mathbb{C}^m), E)]_{\mathbb{Z}_2} = 0$ for $|\nu| \ge \lceil d/2 \rceil$ and the unstable regime for $|\nu| < \lceil d/2 \rceil$
- In AIII/BDI we always have $[(l^d, \partial l^d), (S^1, 1)]_{\mathbb{Z}_2} \cong \mathbb{Z}$ for all $d \ge 1$

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Example: The $J_1 - J_2$ HAF on a square lattice

 $\rightarrow \text{ Class AIII/BDI}$

- \rightarrow We have the integers d = 2 and N = 2
- → In Néel state: M = 6, at critical point (highly frustrated): M = 2, in frustrated state: $M = 4^{10}$
- ightarrow Classifying spaces are $V_2(\mathbb{C}^6)$, U(2) and $V_2(\mathbb{C}^4)$, respectively
- $ightarrow\,$ 0, $\mathbb Z$ and 0, respectively

¹⁰Roychowdhury and Lawler, "Classification of magnetic frustration and metamaterials from topology".

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- $\rightarrow\,$ Homotopical classification of zero modes in frustrated systems in presence or absence of canonical TRS
- \rightarrow Describe all zero modes in the framework of rigidity operators *R* (ker *R* = Space of zero modes)
- → \exists Nonisostatic systems ($\nu \neq 0$) with nontrivial topological invariants; beyond original Kane and Lubensky¹¹ isostatic class $\nu = 0$
- ightarrow Novel topological invariants in presence of canonical TRS compared to Roychowdhury and Lawler (2018)
- \rightarrow Further symmetry classes, e.g. AIII/CI ($r(-\mathbf{k}) = r(\mathbf{k})^T$) and AIII/DIII ($r(-\mathbf{k}) = -r(\mathbf{k})^T$)¹²

¹²Roychowdhury et al., "Supersymmetry on the lattice: Geometry, Topology, and Spin Liquids".

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¹¹C. L. Kane and T. C. Lubensky. "Topological boundary modes in isostatic lattices". In: *Nature Physics* 10.1 (Dec. 2013).

Thank you

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